

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

17. (Twice Amended) A urinal or commode mat for protecting a restroom surface from spillage of liquids, said mat comprising:

a cartridge unit including

(a) moisture absorbing means for absorbing and retaining liquid,

(b) a cartridge top disposed over and connected to said moisture absorbing means for collecting and draining liquid onto said moisture absorbing means,

(c) barrier means disposed beneath and connected to said moisture absorbing means for preventing moisture escape from said moisture absorbing means; and

a base unit, operatively connected to said cartridge unit and containing said cartridge unit.